## Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph appear at Page 1, lines 10-15, with the following amended paragraph:

BDDs are effectively deployed in many EDA (Electronic Design Automation) tools, in particular in the area of formal verification. A plethora of public domain BDD packages is available on the web (see Meinel, Ch. Wagner, A., "WWW~ DOT BDD-PORTAL ~ DOT ORG", Proc. IEEE IWLS [Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers; International Workshop on Logic and Synthesis], pp. 341-348, 2000; ~~http://www.bdd-portal.org~~ http colon backslash backslash www dot bdd-portal dot org).

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